CHEADLE AND GATLEY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Report

FOR THE YEAR 1898.

STOCKPORT:

"ADVERTISER" AND "ECHO" OFFICE, KING STREET EAST.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29100276

To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG to present my Annual Report on the Cheadle and Gatley Urban Sanitary District for the year 1898.

As required by the orders of the Local Government Board, I must re-state some of the information which has appeared in former Annual Reports.

The district is mainly residential and agricultural. There has been no increase in the number of trades carried on in the district—which were fully numerated in a former Annual Report.

There has been a large increase in the number of new houses built and occupied during the year, especially in the Cheadle Hulme and Cheadle Heath districts.

On Table A the area of the district and the population of the district census, 1891, are given, and also the estimated population to the middle of 1898—arrived at by taking into account the difference between the number of births and deaths registered in the district, and the increase due to the occupation of new houses (53, allowing 5 persons to a house) and the ages and special causes of death.

The number of deaths registered in the district during the year was 183, 28 of which took place at the Royal Lunatic Asylum, and 16 at the Convalescent Hospital. Excluding institutions, for the district proper the deaths were 139. The number of births registered during the year was 221.

Comparing the year 1898 with 1897: the number of deaths registered in the district in 1898—139; in 1897—113; increase 26. The number of births registered in 1898—221; in 1897—198; increase 23.

The Death-rate, excluding institutions (estimated population to the middle of 1898—9,100) per 1,000 per annum—for 1898—15·27; in 1897—12·85

The Birth-rate (population 9,100) per 1,000 per aunum—for 1898—24·28; in 1897—22·52.

Of the deaths registered in 1898—23·7% were over 65 years of age; in 1897—29·2%.

In 1898, 25·8 per cent. were nnder 1 year of age, in 1897 26·5 per cent.

Deaths under one year of age, per 1,000 births, registered in 1898—162·8; in 1897—151·5.

The infant mortality was caused chiefly by Bronchitis and Diarrhæa, as in the previous year. Of the 60 deaths under 5 years of age 11 were due to Bronchitis and 4 to Diarrhæa. The majority of the deaths from Bronchitis occurred in the last two months of the year when Bronchitis was especially prevalent among children. The deaths from Diarrhæa mostly occurred in the prolonged drought in September.

There were 10 inquests held in the district during the year, besides one on a patient at the Convalescent Hospital. The verdicts were—3 deaths due to drowning; 4 to natural causes; one at the Hospital—pneumonia following on burns; and 3 on children under one year of age—one death due to convulsions, one to neglect at birth, and one found dead in an ashpit.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year, excluding institutions, 37 cases of Infectious Disease were notified. There were 69 cases in

1897, and 36 in 1896. The number of cases notified of each disease was as follows:—

Smallpox	... none;	in 1897	none;	
Scarlet Fever	... 25	,,	56;	decrease 31.
Diphtheria	... 4	,,	3;	increase 1.
Typhoid Fever	... 8	,,	6;	,, 2.
Erysipelas	... none;	,,	3;	decrease 3.
Puerperal Fever	... none;	,,	none;	
Membranous Croup	... none;	,,	1;	decrease 1.

At the Barnes Convalescent Hospital only two cases of Erysipelas were notified. In 1897 there were 10 cases of Erysipelas and 3 cases of Scarlet Fever. These cases were removed to Monsall Fever Hospital. At the Royal Asylum and the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools no case of Infectious Disease was notified. Besides the notified cases there was one case of Scarlet Fever which was not notified. It proved fatal, and occurred in a house where there had been a previous case, and only came to my knowledge through its fatal termination. I reported the case to your Council, which directed enquiries to be made in the matter, but no other action was taken.

In every case that is notified I at once visit the houes, and with the aid of the medical gentleman in attendance, and your Inspector, take steps to prevent as far as possible any further spread of the disease. When the medical attendant reports that the house is ready to be disinfected your Inspector fumigates it with Sulphur, with fairly satisfactory results. To ensure that bedding and clothing is thoroughly disinfected they ought to be disinfected by steam, and a steam disinfector is greatly needed, and I hope that before long one will be provided by your Council for this large district.

Smallpox.

No cases were notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-five cases were notified of which 19 were over 5 years of age, and 6 under 5 years of age. Fourteen cases occurred in Cheadle Heath, 7 in Adswood, 2 in Cheadle, and 2 in Cheadle Hulme. The disease was on the whole of a mild type. There was one fatal case which was not notified either by the medical attendant or parent. Of the 14 cases in Cheadle Heath the majority of the children attended the same day schools, and on visiting the house where one patient was I found that she was disquamating, and I think that owing to the mildness af the attack, and the slightness of the rash, a few cases were not recognised at the onset, and this was the cause of the disease spreading. I took all possible precautions to check any further spread of the disease. I also visited the day schools on several occasions, and asked the mistress to send home any suspicious case that should arise among the scholars and inform me of the fact. Two of these cases—through the kindness of Dr. Porter, Medical Officer of Health for Stockport—were admitted into the Stockport Fever Hospital. Of the 7 cases in Adswood most of the children attended schools outside the district, and, as far as I could trace, took the infection from the schools. Besides the 7 cases notified, the case that was not notified occurred in a family in this part of the district. The cases in Cheadle and Cheadle Hulme require no special comment. In one case the infection was taken outside the district—the patient was employed in Manchester—and another case the infection was derived from the cases in Cheadle Heath.

Typhoid Fever.

Eight cases were notified and none were fatal. Three of the cases occurred in School Street, on the border of Stockport, in September. The patients were employed in mills in Stockport, and as there were numerous cases at the time in the

town these cases undoubtedly received the infection from the same source as the cases there. In no case had I any reason to suspect the milk or the water supply, or the drainage of the houses where the patients lived, to be a source of infection.

Diphtheria.

Four cases were notified, two of which were fatal. One of the fatal cases occurred in a low small back-to-back house which was badly ventilated and lighted, the other occurred on the Stockport boundry, and the disease was contracted outside the district. One of the remaining cases occurred in the same family, but recovered. The last case occurred in a small house which was overcrowded and damp.

Erysipelas.

Only 2 cases were notified, and both of these occurred at the Convalescent Hospital, and were removed to Monsall Fever Hospital. This is the first year that there has been no cases notified in the district proper.

Puerperal Fever.

No case was notified.

Measles.

This disease is not notified. Although there were 4 deaths registered as due to measles, there was no serious outbreak at any time in the district. At the beginning of the year there was an outbreak of measles in one of the neighbouring districts, and another serious one in Northern Etchells at the close of the year, but this did not spread to Cheadle and Gatley.

Whooping Cough.

There were 3 deaths due to whooping cough, but it has not been generally prevalent in the district during the year.

Diarrhœa

was especially prevalent during the months of August and September. It affected both adults and children. Four deaths of children were registered as due to it.

Influenza

Was very prevalent at the beginning of the year, but generally of a mild type. Five deaths were registered as due to it.

Hospital Accommodation.

As I reported in my previous Annual Reports cases of Smallpox can be removed to the Hyde Hospital for Infectious Diseases, and by the courtesy of Dr. Porter, Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Stockport, other cases can be received at the Stockport Fever Hospital, as far as they have accommodation for them. There is no other accommodation. During the year your Council entered into negotiations with a neighbouring Authority to secure Beds in a proposed Hospital for Infectious Diseases, but no arrangement has been made.

The Royal Asylum and the Convalescent Hospital send their cases to the Monsall Fever Hospital; the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools have their own Sanatorium.

Sewage Outfall Works.

The effluent from the Filter Beds was reported by the Inspector to be very satisfactory. On the whole it was one of the best in the Joint Committee's area. No Sewage has been, in the crude state, turned on to the adjoining land as in the previous year.

One portion of the Sewage Scheme remains to be completed. It is expected that it will be finished during the year.

Improvements.

Several streets were sewered, and the houses abutting connected up with the sewer. Others are being sewered, paved, and channelled. The lighting of many was improved.

Several old ashpits and privies were pulled down and replaced by water-closets and dust-bins, which are emptied weekly. Slop water-closets were put in some houses, but they are found on the whole to require more attention than the water-closets, and are not so efficient, consequently there use has been nearly discontinued.

Water Supply.

The water is supplied by the Stockport District Waterworks Co., and is sufficient for the needs of the district. Several complaints were made in the autumn about the turbidity and hardness of the water, which rendered it at times unfit for domestic purposes. During the prolonged drought in autumn there was no failure in the water supply. Samples were taken from time to time in various parts of the district for analysis. In each case the sample was said by the analyst to be one ot very good water. Several samples were taken for analysis from the wells in the district, and where they were reported as not fit for domestic use your Council ordered the wells to be closed, and where possible the Stockport Company's water supplied.

Slaughter Houses.

These are still unlicensed. There was one new slaughter house opened during the year. They were all inspected and found clean and well kept.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

With your Inspector I visited them from time to time. They were clean, aud the animals well kept. In one or two cases we found that the cubic space per animal was far below that required by your bye-laws. In each case steps were taken to have this rectified. Samples of milk sold in the district were taken and analyzed and reported as pure.

Bakehouses.

I inspected these with your Inspector. They were clean and well-ventilated.

Ashpits and Removal of Refuse.

Your Inspector has reported on these. During the summer I received several complaints about foul smells arising from the ashpits, and also that they were not emptied often enough. To remedy this an arrangement was made by which some of the dry ashpits were emptied during the day. This relieved the great pressure on the nightsoil staff a little, but your Inspector informs me, owing to the increase in the number of houses, that his staff is insufficient to properly do the work.

Food and Drugs Act.

Samples of food exposed for sale were taken and analysed, and the analyst reported them as pure. Your Inspector would have taken more samples for analysis but on several occasions he found that one of the County Inspectors had been before him and had taken samples for analysis. He did not again take samples, as it would have involved the analysis of the same articles twice over.

Unwholesome Food.

None as far as I know was exposed for sale in the district.

Common Lodging Houses.

None in the district.

Unhealthy Houses.

I have reported one block of houses as unfit for human habitation in their present state.

New Houses.

Fifty-three were built and occupied during the year, and in every case the requirements of your bye-laws were complied with.

Cemetery.

The various burial grounds in the district are now almost quite full. A suitable site has been found, and the Government Inspector has to report on it.

Elementary Schools.

I have inspected them from time to time. The sanitary arrangements are satisfactory and sufficient. The play grounds are dry and well drained.

Recreation Ground

is much appreciated by the children of the village. It has not yet been equipped, but it is expected this will be done during the year.

I have with your Inspector gone through the district and made thorough inspections of those houses where any altera-

tions were deemed necessary. In almost all cases the suggested alterations and improvements were promptly carried out.

Whenever nuisances were reported to me I informed your Inspector, and he took steps to have them abated.

In conclusion, I must acknowledge the very efficient help I have received from your Inspector, Mr. Fernley. Athough new to the district, he has always performed his duties to my complete satisfaction. Appended is his report for the year, and from it it will be seen that a good deal of good work was done in the sanitary department during the year.

JOHN H. GODSON, B.A., M.B.B.C. (Cantab.),

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

February 6th, 1899.

Table of Deaths during the year 1898, in the Cheadle & Gatley Urban Sanitary District

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B).	Mortality from all Cases at Subjoined Ages.								Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under 5 years of age.													
a	At all Ages. b	Under 1 year. c	1 and under 5. d	5 and under 15. e	15 and under 25 f	25 and under 65 g	65 and upwards h	i	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric or Typhoid	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhœa and Dysentry	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Influenza	Injuries	All other diseases	Total
Cheadle and Gatley Urban Sanitary District...	139	36	24	7	1	38	33	Under 5		1			4	3	4		11			1	36	60
								5 upwards.....	1	1						7	10	7	5	3	45	79
Royal Asylum	28					19	9	Uuder 5														
								5 upwards.....								2	1	1			24	28
Convalescent Hospital.....	16			1	2	13		Under 5														
								5 upwards.....								4	2	3		1	6	16
Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools.....								Under 5.....														
								5 upwards.....														
Totals.....	183	36	24	8	3	70	42	Under 5.....		1			4	3	4		11			1	36	60
								5 upwards.....	1	1						13	13	11	5	4	75	123

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this return relates :—

Population (1891) 8255, including Institutions.

Population (estimated to middle of 1898) 9931 (including Institutions).

Area in Acres, 5812.

Death Rates { General 15·27 { Per 1000 population estimated to middle of 1898. } (excluding institutions).

Death Rates { Infants (under 1 year of age) 162·8 { Per 1000 births registered. }

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1898, in the Cheadle and Gatley Urban Sanitary District; classified according (B) to the Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics, Public Institutions being shown as Separate Localities. (A)	Population at all Ages, Census 1891. (B)	Population at all Ages, Estimated to middle of 1898. (C)	Registered Births.		New cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health. Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Number of such cases removed from their Homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital. Scarlatina.	Enteric or Typh'd Fever.	Erysipelas.
			M 110 F 111								
			—	Under 5 ...	6	1	1	—	—	—	—
Cheadle and Gatley Urban Sanitary Authority..	7540	9100	221	5 upwards	19	3	7	—	*2	—	—
				Under 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Royal Lunatic Asylum.....	337	423	—	5 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
				Unner 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convalescent Hospital.....	153	160	—	5 upwards	—	—	—	2	—	—	†2
				Under 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools	225	248	—	5 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	8255	9831	221	Under 5 ..	6	1	1	—	—	—	—
				5 upwards	19	3	7	2	—	—	2

*Sent to Stockport Fever Hospital. †Sent to Monsall Fever Hospital.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT OF SANITARY WORK COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1898.

No. of Complaints received during the year, exclusive of Applications *re* House Refuse Removal		18
,, Houses, Premises, &c., Inspected	595	1173
,, ,, ,, Re-inspected	578	
,, Cases of Overcrowding abated		—
,, Samples of Food taken, and submitted for analysis ...		8
Results of Inspection—Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments to Houses and Premises		29
,, ,, Houses, Premises, &c., Cleaned, Repaired, Whitewashed, &c.		4
,, ,, Houses Disinfected after an illness of an infectious character		23
,, ,, Houses entirely Re-Drained and coupled up with Sewerage System		49
,, ,, Cesspools Closed		8
,, ,, House Drains Cleansed and Repaired ...		25
,, ,, Midden Privfes converted into Water Closets		17
,, ,, Privies and Ashpits Repaired, Covered, and Ventilated		53
,, ,, Privies and Ashpits, new provided ...		12
,, ,, Wells Closed		3
,, ,, Town Water Supplied		2
,, ,, Slop Sink, Waste Pipes, and Rainwater Pipes Repaired and Disconnected from Drains		43
,, ,, Bath and Lavatory Waste Pipes and Soil Pipes altered and made to comply with modern requirements		4
,, ,, Defective Indoor W.C. ("Pan" Closets) abolished and replaced by modern wash-downs		4
,, ,, Samples of Well-water submitted for analysis		6

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. of Lodging Houses registered under the 35th section of the Sanitary Act, 1866, or 90th section of Public Health Act, 1875	—
Common Lodging Houses	—
House Refuse Removed, Loads	4164
Accumulations of Animal Refuse, Stagnant Water, &c., Removed ...	8
Bakehouses Inspected	6
Slaughter Houses Inspected	6
Licensed Cowsheds and Milkshops	50
Cowsheds Repaired, Lighted, and Ventilated	2
Observation of Smoke from chimneys of various works in the district	23